

AGN. NO. _____

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR ZEV YAROSLAVSKY

January 6, 2009

The death of a child to whom the County provided services is always a tragedy. In the aftermath of such a death, the County conducts investigations in order to determine what went wrong and to make policy changes, if necessary, to hopefully prevent such tragedies from occurring again. The Board of Supervisors sets County policy and directs the conduct of County operations; for the Board to effectively respond to child deaths, it must be able to access the records of the deceased child(ren).

On January 1, 2009, Assembly Bill 2904 (AB 2904) became effective. The Legislature recognized the Board's need to access case records and information when a child dies who had previously come to the attention of, or was in the protective custody of, the county child welfare agency. AB 2904 permits a County Board of Supervisors to receive and review this information together and in closed session. For counties that have a foster care population larger than 10,000 children, like Los Angeles County, a Board may take action to also permit individual Board members' offices to receive and review the information for the purpose of determining which cases should be brought to the attention of the full Board in closed session.

MOTION

MOLINA _____

RIDLEY-THOMAS _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

ANTONOVICH _____

KNABE _____

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that this Board permit individual Board members' offices to receive and review the case records and information when a child dies who had previously come to the attention of, or was in the protective custody of, the Department of Children and Family Services or the Probation Department, for the purpose of determining which cases should be brought to the attention of the full board in closed session.

LM: S:\Motions\Assembly Bill 2904